Writing Test Plans

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Overview

- Documentation is important
  - How much focus should it receive?
- Test plans is essential part of documentation
- IEEE 829-2008 standard :
  - A document describing the scope, approach, resources, and schedule of intended test activities. It identifies test items, the features to be tested, the testing tasks, who will do each task, and any risks requiring contingency planning. (B) A document that describes the technical and management approach to be followed for testing a system or component. Typical contents identify the items to be tested, tasks to be performed, responsibilities, schedules, and required resources for the testing activity. (adopted from IEEE Std 610.12-1990 [B2]) The document may be a Master Test Plan or a Level Test Plan.

Two Major types of test plans

- Master Test Plan (MTP)
  - Provides and overall test planning and test management document for multiple levels of test.
  - An MTP can either apply to one project or apply to multiple projects within the same organization
- Level Test Plan (LTP)
  - Describes testing at a particular level (defined in Ch.1)
  - Each LTP must describe the scope, approach, resources, and schedule of the testing activities for its level of testing.
  - The LTP then defines
    - the items being tested
    - the features to be testing
    - the testing tasks to be performed
    - who is responsible for each task
    - any risks associated with the testing

Level Test Plan example Template (Intro)

- Document Identifier
- Scope
- References
- Level in the overall sequence
- Test classes and overall test conditions

Level Test Plan example Template (Details)

- Test items and their identifiers
- Test traceability
- Features to be tested
- Features not to be tested
- Approach
- Items pass/fail criteria
- Suspension criteria and resumption requirements
- Test deliverables

Level Test Plan example Template (Management)

- Planned activities and tasks; test progression
- Environment and infrastructure
- Responsibilities and authority
- Interfaces among the parties involved
- Training
- Schedule, estimates and costs
- Risks and contingencies

Level Test Plan example Template (General)

- Quality assurance procedures
- Metrics
- Test coverage
- Glossary
- Document change procedures history s